

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release



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Idaho Potato Stocks Down 18 Percent from Last Year

Potato stocks held by growers, dealers, and processors in Idaho on February 1 totaled 64.0 million cwt, 14.5 million cwt less than on hand February 1, 2010. This is the lowest February 1 stocks level since 1989. Disappearance, at 50.4 million cwt is down from last year's 54.0 million cwt. Stocks in the 10 Southwest counties totaled 3.00 million cwt, up from last year's 2.90 million cwt. The Other counties' stocks, at 61.0 million cwt, were down from the 75.6 million cwt stored on February 1, 2010. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon used 5.86 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes during January, down 2.2 percent from January 2010. Processors in Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon have used 32.7 million cwt of 2010 crop raw potatoes to February 1, down 7.0 percent from last year. Idaho potatoes accounted for 28.0 million cwt of the total processed. The remaining 4.70 million cwt were produced in other states.

Nationally, the 13 major potato States held 176 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2011, down 14 percent from a year ago. Potatoes in storage accounted for 50 percent of the 2010 fall storage States' production, three percentage points below February 1, 2010. Potato disappearance, at 176 million cwt, was 3 percent below February 1, 2010. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 16.6 million cwt, was down 12 percent from the same date in 2010. Processors in the 9 major States have used 91.9 million cwt of potatoes this season, up 1 percent from the same period last year. Dehydrating usage accounted for 13.6 million cwt of the total processing, down 20 percent from last year.